

1 Claims

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3 1. A water treatment system comprising a host
4 water treatment apparatus and a separable water
5 treatment component, said component being
6 useable in the host apparatus, wherein the
7 component has an electronic circuit adapted to
8 co-operate with an electronic circuit in the
9 host apparatus.

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11 2. A water treatment system as claimed in Claim 1
12 wherein the co-operation between the component
13 and the host apparatus is either one way or
14 two-way.

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16 3. A water treatment system as claimed in Claim 1
17 or Claim 2 wherein the component circuit and
18 the host circuit communicate via one or more of
19 the following transmittable waveforms: radio,
20 infrared, optical and magnetic.

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22 4. A water treatment system as claimed Claim 1 or
23 Claim 2 wherein the component circuit and the
24 host circuit communicate by physical electrical
25 contact.

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27 5. A water treatment system as claimed in any one
28 of the preceding Claims wherein co-operation of
29 the component circuit and the host circuit is
30 only possible when the component is conjoined
31 with the host apparatus.

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- 1 6. A water treatment system as claimed in any one
2 of the preceding Claims wherein the component
3 circuit and/or the host circuit includes a
4 memory capacity.
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- 6 7. A water treatment system as claimed in any one
7 of the preceding Claims wherein each electronic
8 circuit can read and/or interrogate the other
9 electrical circuit.
10
- 11 8. A water treatment system as claimed in any one
12 of the preceding Claims wherein the electrical
13 circuit in the host apparatus includes a
14 central processor, and the electrical circuit
15 in the component includes a data chip.
16
- 17 9. A water treatment system as claimed in any one
18 of the preceding Claims wherein the electronic
19 circuit of the component provides an enablement
20 signal to the electronic circuit of the host
21 apparatus, and/or vice versa.
22
- 23 10. A water treatment system as claimed in Claim 9
24 wherein the enablement signal includes means
25 for the component or host apparatus to control
26 the other part.
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- 28 11. A water treatment system as claimed any one of
29 the preceding Claims wherein the component and
30 host inter-co-operate.
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- 1 12. A water treatment system as claimed in any one
2 of the preceding Claims wherein the electronic
3 circuit of the component includes at least a
4 data tag.
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- 6 13. A water treatment system as claimed in Claim 12
7 wherein presence of the data tag is identified
8 by the electronic circuit of the host
9 apparatus.
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- 11 14. A water treatment system as claimed in any one
12 of the preceding Claims wherein lack of co-
13 operation between the electronic circuit of the
14 component and electronic circuit of the host
15 apparatus indicates the incorrect fitment
16 and/or installation of the component with the
17 host apparatus.
18
- 19 15. A water treatment system as claimed in any one
20 of the preceding Claims wherein lack of co-
21 operation between the electronic circuit of the
22 component and the electronic circuit of the
23 unit identifies incorrect operation of the
24 component and/or the host apparatus.
25
- 26 16. A water treatment system as claimed in any one
27 of the preceding Claims wherein information in
28 the component is accessed from the component
29 and displayed by the host apparatus.
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- 31 17. A water treatment system as claimed in any one
32 of the preceding Claims wherein information

- 1 that is communicated between the electronic
2 circuits of the component and the host
3 apparatus is validation information, production
4 information and/or manufacturing information.
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- 6 18. A host water treatment apparatus useable with a
7 water treatment component to provide a water
8 treatment system, said host apparatus having a
9 electronic circuit adapted to co-operate with
10 an electronic circuit in the component in a
11 manner as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 17.
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- 13 19. A separable treatment component useable with a
14 host water treatment apparatus, said component
15 having an electronic circuit adapted to co-
16 operate with an electronic circuit in the host
17 apparatus.
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- 19 20. A treatment component as claimed in Claim 19
20 wherein the component is a water treatment
21 component adapted to provide a water treatment
22 system in co-operation with the host apparatus.
23
- 24 21. A treatment component as claimed in Claim 19
25 wherein the component is adapted to sanitise
26 and/or clean one or more parts of the host
27 apparatus.
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- 29 22. A treatment component as claimed in any one of
30 Claims 19 to 21 wherein the electronic circuits
31 co-operate in a manner as defined in any one of
32 Claims 1 to 17.

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2 23. A treatment component as claimed in any one of
3 Claims 19 to 22 wherein the electronic circuit
4 of the component is integral with the
5 component.

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7 24. A treatment component as claimed in Claim 23
8 wherein the electronic circuit is embedded into
9 or mounted onto the component.

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11 25. A treatment component as claimed in any one of
12 Claims 19 to 24 wherein the electronic circuit
13 of the component includes a database having
14 characterising data relating to the component.

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16 26. A treatment component as claimed in any one of
17 Claims 19 to 25 wherein the data of the
18 component electronic circuit is encrypted.

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20 27. A treatment component as claimed in any one of
21 Claims 19 to 26 wherein the component is a
22 consumable replaceable unit.

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24 28. A treatment component as claimed in Claim 27
25 wherein the component is a cartridge.

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27 29. A water treatment component substantially as
28 hereindescribed and with reference to Figure 1.